

## **US Army Corps** of Engineers

Vicksburg District 4155 Clay Street Vicksburg, MS 39183-3435



## **Public Notice**

APPLICATION NO.: PBH-200101160

**FVALUATOR:** 

Mr. Philip Hollis, P.E.

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EXPIRATION DATE:

March 13, 2001 April 3, 2001

Interested parties are hereby notified that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Vicksburg District is considering an application for a Department of the Army Permit for the work described herein. Comments should be forwarded to the Vicksburg District, ATTN: CELMK-OD-F, and must reach these offices by the cited expiration date.

<u>Law Requiring a Permit</u>: Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 (33 U.S.C. 403), which applies to structures or work in navigable waters of the United States. Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1344), which applies to discharges of dredged or fill material into waters of the United States.

## Name of Applicant:

Ashbrook Island Land Company 2230 S. MacArthur Drive Suite 3 Alexandria, Louisiana 71301

Location of Work: Section 23, T19N-R1W, latitude 33 ° 27' 40.44 " longitude 91 ° 10' 18.24", within the Mississippi River Drainage Basin, Chicot County, near Lake Village, Arkansas.

Description of Work: (See enclosed map and drawings.)

The applicant is applying for a Department of the Army permit to fill in an existing ditch within Lake Paradise using material excavated from the lake bed. The purpose for the work is to prevent the lake from dropping to critically low levels which would result in fish kill. The following descriptions of the proposed project and associated impacts are based upon information provided by the applicant.

The work would include the placement of approximately 444 cubic yards of material excavated from the adjacent lake bed into a 150-foot-long by 20-footwide by 4-foot-deep section of the ditch. The ditch has been scoured out by passage of outboards during low water periods.

The excavation and placement of material into Lake Paradise are the parts of the project that require a Department of the Army permit.

Upon reviewing this notice, you should write to this office to provide your opinion of the impacts this work will have on the natural and human environment and address any mitigation you believe is necessary to offset these impacts. Other comments are welcome, but the above information will further our review of the plan as proposed. Comments of a general nature are not as helpful as those specific to the impacts of the subject project.

<u>Cultural Resources</u>: There are fourteen properties listed in the <u>National Register of Historic Places</u> in Chicot, Arkansas. However, our initial review indicated that the proposed project would have no effect on sites listed, or eligible for listing, in the <u>National Register of Historic Places</u>. By copy of this public notice, we are soliciting comments from the Arkansas State Historic Preservation Officer and the Vicksburg District archeologist on the existence of specific sites or structures which may be affected by the work.

<u>Endangered Species</u>: Our initial finding is that the proposed work would not affect any endangered species or their critical habitat. This proposal is being coordinated with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and any comments regarding endangered species or their critical habitat will be addressed in our evaluation of the described work.

Evaluation Factors: The decision whether or not to issue a permit will be based upon an evaluation of the probable impact of the proposed activity on the public interest. That decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. The benefits which may be expected to accrue from the proposal must be balanced against its expected adverse effects. All factors which may be relevant to the proposal will be considered; among these are conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, historic values, fish and wildlife values, flood damage prevention, land use classification, navigation, recreations, water supply, water quality, energy needs, safety, food requirements and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people.

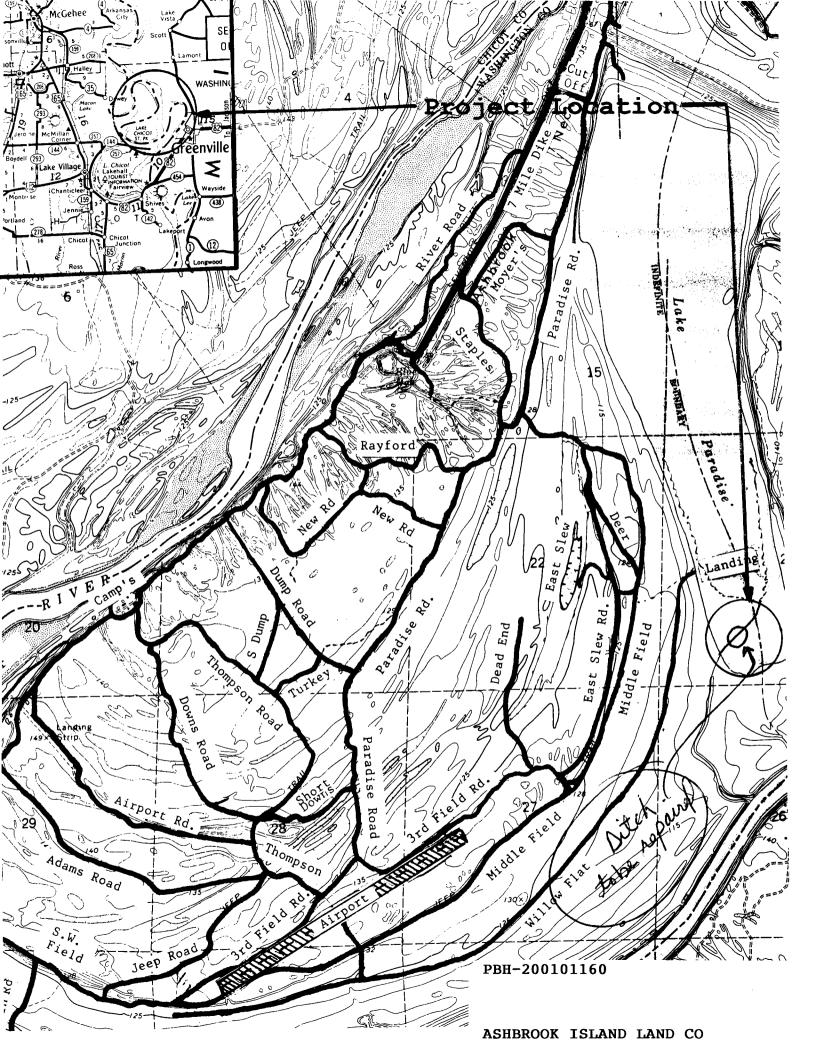
<u>Public Involvement</u>: The purpose of this notice is to solicit comments from the public; Federal, State, and local agencies and officials; Indian Tribes; and other interested parties. These comments will be used to evaluate the impacts of this project. All comments will be considered and used to help determine whether to issue the permit, deny the permit, or issue the permit with conditions, and to help us determine the amount and type of mitigation necessary. This information will be used in our Environmental Assessment or

Impact Statement. Comments are also used to determine the need for a public hearing.

Opportunity for a Public Hearing: Any person may make a written request for a public hearing to consider this permit application. This request must be submitted by the public notice expiration date and must clearly state why a hearing is necessary. Failure of any agency or individual to comment on this notice will be interpreted to mean that there is no objection to the proposed work. Please bring this announcement to the attention of anyone you know who might be interested in this matter.

Chief. Evaluation Section

Regulatory Branch



Paradire Take Section of ditch to be repaired 150; long 20' wide 4' deep old anisissippe Quantity:) 12,000 Culic Material) 100+ of dirt feet of dirt from adjacent lake lied

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